

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 10 JAN 2005	
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Applicant's or agent's file reference 206.330-PCT		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/37251	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 November 2003 (18.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 18 November 2002 (18.11.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): G01N 17/00, 27/00 and US Cl.: 73/86; 324/71.2			
Applicant SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u> </u> sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 16 June 2004 (16.06.2004)		Date of completion of this report 13 September 2004 (13.09.2004)	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer Hezron Williams Jean Proctor Paralegal Sr. Telephone No. (571) 272-2800	

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet)(July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/37251

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-17 as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims:
pages 18-22, as originally filed
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the drawings:
pages 1-4, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages NONE, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages NONE
- ☐ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US03/37251

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims NONE	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims NONE	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims NONE	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1-18 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the invention of claim 1.

Regarding claim 1, the closest prior art of McKubre discloses working electrode 40 equivalent to a generally cylindrical heat and electrically conductive member having an annular portion and a solid portion. Insulators 60, 62 are corrosion resistant external protective member that surround a portion of the heat conductive member in close-fitting relationship as shown figure 4. Cylinder (no reference number) shown in figure 3 threadably attaching electrode 40 is mounting means for attaching a rotational electrode in close fitting heat and electrically conductive relation, the electrode being selected from the group consisting of cylindrical and disk electrodes.

McKubre lacks a heating device positioned inside of the annular portion and in heat exchanging relation with the solid portion of the conductive member.

Yasuda (Japanese Patent 61065137A) teaches an internal heater 7 (Derwent abstract)) inserted into the inside of a pipe-like sample.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made position a heating device inside the cylindrical sample as temperature may have a profound effect on corrosion rates and is a parameter one of ordinary skill would control and investigate in relation to corrosion study.

McKubre also discloses electrical terminal means generally at 24, 52 connecting to the sample or electrode 40. However, McKubre and Yasuda do not teach and prior art does not suggest such means receiving a plurality of external electrical connectors mounted on the protective member opposite the portion of the conductive member on which the rotational electrode is mounted.

The plural electrodes in the form of conductive brushes mounted in a slip-ring arrangement permit power supply and signal reception from plural thermal responsive devices within the sample to monitor conditions of the sample.

Claims 2-18 depending from claim 1 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3) for the same reason.

Claims 1-18 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----